



## OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

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WASHINGTON, DC 20301-5000

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INTELLIGENCE

### MEMORANDUM FOR SENIOR DIRECTOR, RECORDS ACCESS AND INFORMATION SECURITY MANAGEMENT, NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: Department of Defense Response to National Security Council Argentina  
Declassification Project

This memorandum provides a summary of the Department of Defense's (DoD) participation in the Argentina Declassification Project. The June 13, 2016 task directed agencies to search for records relating to human rights abuses committed in Argentina from January 1, 1975 through December 31, 1984 and review responsive records for public release. The DoD Chief Information Officer (CIO) tasked DoD Components to complete a search and review of their records holdings.

Under the oversight of the Office of the Director for Defense Intelligence (Counterintelligence, Law Enforcement & Security), Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence, the Records, Privacy, and Declassification Division (RPDD), Washington Headquarters Service (WHS) served as the project lead to coordinate the responses from all DoD Components. RPDD distributed the Presidential Task and the accompanying DoD CIO memorandum to DoD Components including a 19-page comprehensive list of key terms (TAB A). RPDD also advised DoD components to provide specific information about their search, identify the office responsible for the search, and to search both their electronic systems and paper records series.

In response, the Heads of DoD Components assembled staff, including records managers, historians, freedom of information specialists and declassification specialists, and developed a plan to complete the task. Each Component used search strategies tailored to their specific missions and record-keeping systems. Searches were focused on those record series determined to likely contain responsive records in paper files and electronic document files on classified and unclassified systems. In determining responsiveness, DoD evaluated records erring on the side of inclusiveness. Records determined to be responsive were reviewed for public access on a word-for-word basis, using standards established in section 3 of Executive Order 13526, "Classified National Security Information," and common public release standards agreed to by all participating agencies.

Overall, DoD located 872 records totaling approximately 11,302 pages. DoD declassified 217 records in full consisting of 3,360 pages, declassified 540 records in part consisting of 7,142 pages (589 pages from this set were withheld in full and therefore were excluded from the partially released total). Further, 115 records were fully withheld from release totaling 211 pages. DoD assigned more than 240 personnel and spent more than 13,000 hours working diligently to complete the task.

A list of all DoD Components that conducted searches and whether responsive records were found is at TAB B. The individual summaries of the processes and the methodologies used by the DoD Components that had responsive records, the staff and time involved in the search, and a list of all record series searched, along with the results are provided in TABS C-J. Should you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Donna Rivera at 703-692-3729 or [donna.e.rivera.civ@mail.mil](mailto:donna.e.rivera.civ@mail.mil).



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Attachments:

- A. List of Search Terms and Supporting Information Used
- B. List of DoD Components that Conducted Searches
- C. Defense Intelligence Agency Narrative
- D. Department of Air Force Narrative
- E. Department of Army Narrative
- F. Department of Navy Narrative
- G. National Security Agency Narrative
- H. Office of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Narrative
- I. Office of the Secretary of Defense/Washington Headquarters Services Summary of Actions
- J. United States Southern Command Narrative